Applicant : Thomas G. Woolston   Attorney's Docket No.: 13466-002005
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<u>Amendments to the Claims:</u>

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

<u>Listing of Claims:</u>

1-10.   (Canceled)

11.   (Currently Amended) A <u>computer network-based</u> method for facilitating commerce at an internet-based auction, the method comprising:

authorizing a ~~first~~ <u>seller</u> participant to post<u>, using a computer system associated with the seller participant,</u> an item for auction at an internet auction site;

receiving<u>,</u> at a communication handler program executing on a host computer system<u>,</u> information from the ~~first~~ <u>seller</u> ~~participant~~ <u>participant's computer system</u> about ~~an~~ <u>the</u> item to be auctioned, the received information including a designation of a category<u>,</u> selected <u>by the seller participant</u> from a list of ~~categories,~~ <u>categories displayed on the seller participant's computer system,</u> under which the item is to be auctioned;

processing the received information <u>at the host computer system</u> into a presentation format with a database-to-presentation format formatting program, the presentation format including an indication of the category of the item to be auctioned;

presenting the presentation formatted information to a plurality of internet participants; and

receiving at the host computer <u>system</u> at least one bid for the auctioned item from at least one of the internet participants.

12.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
receiving at the host computer <u>system</u> payment information from the bidding <u>internet</u> participant.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
opening an auction process to the plurality of internet participants; and

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automatically closing the auction process to the internet participants based on a predetermined condition.

(14)
14.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
receiving the bid for the auctioned item via a world-wide web page server interface.

(16)
15.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 further comprising:
receiving payment information from the bidding participant, the received payment information being associated with the received bid.

(12)
16.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~11~~ 15 further comprising:
wherein the payment information received from the bidding internet participant includes information identifying a credit card account, and further comprising passing the credit card account information to a clearinghouse and receiving authorization from the clearinghouse that payment with the credit card has cleared.

(48)
17.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
receiving payment information from the bidding participant;
clearing the payment information and transferring legal ownership of the item to the bidding participant.